



American Corners - Quick Info for Partners

Resources

- American Corners Website: For AC Coordinators & Staff. Calendar of commemorative events & holidays; IIP thematic packages; Program- and collection-development resources
<http://americancorners.state.gov>
ID: american
Password: corners
- US Department of State Website: <http://www.state.gov/>
- Embassy Website in your country

Discussion Lists

- Listserv for American Corners local staff, and American officers and FSNs working with American Corners, ACSTAFF-L:
<http://statelists.state.gov/archives/acstaff-l.html>
- Facebook Group for American Corners Coordinators (closed group; you must request to join):
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/168243303244642/>

American Corners: Core Characteristics

- Current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), drafted and signed by the Embassy and the host institution; outlines the shared commitment and respective responsibilities of each institution
- Corner provides space sufficient for hosting collections and programs
- Collections of information on the U.S. such as books, U.S. documents & reports, periodicals, films, and posters, which are publicly accessible (recommended minimum of 800 titles)
- Supervised Internet access provided in locations where available
- Corner serves as a platform which offers programs on, or information about: the US, cultural programs, study in the US, English language learning, alumni programs
- Corner hosts a minimum of twelve programs per year
- Reference desk modeled on American public library service
- AC staff assigned by host institution are conversant in English
- Regular reporting on Corner programs and activities

Sample American Corner Monthly Report

Statistical Record	
Number of Visitors	
Number of Programs Held	
Total attendance at programs	

List of Programs Held					
Title	Presenter	Date	Audience Level	Attendance	Comments

Send American Corner photos to this site, and/or include them in your reports to your embassy contact: americanspaces@yahoo.com

Tips for good photographs:

Good photographs of events:

- Are well-lighted
- Show patrons enjoying themselves
- Are taken at close range and clearly show the faces of those being photographed
- Are “action shots.” Persons in the photograph are doing something (speaking to a group, working together on a project, engaged in a discussion)
- Include a caption that identifies who is in the photograph and what is happening

The most common reasons for less effective photographs:

- Participants are looking down and their faces are not visible; no one is smiling
- The photo is too dark
- Tables and desks in foreground have plastic water bottles and other objects in the way
- The photographer was too far away from the subjects of the photograph
- The photo is “static” and simply shows people sitting passively or staring at the camera
- It is unclear who the people in the photo are or what they are doing

Contacts for assistance with American Corners issues:

- Your regional PD Officers
- Your regional Information Resources Officer (IRO)
- IIP/IR American Corners Coordinator, Anne Johnson
[JohnsonAJ7@state.gov]
- IIP/IR American Corners Program Analyst, Eileen Deegan
[Deeganeg@state.gov]